



CASE STUDY

Works: Asbestos removal and demolition

Sector: Healthcare

Royal United Hospital, Bath

OVERVIEW: Lawson Group were awarded the contract to complete the removal of licensed asbestos and demolition of several units at Royal United Hospital, Bath. The works comprised of the demolition of the existing Kinghorn Dermatology and Discharge Centre. This was a single storey building constructed in 1943 from brick, had a concrete reinforced roof finished in asphalt and metal window frames.

CHALLENGE: The hospital had to remain fully operational at all times. The scope of the works extended to ensure that a live pathology oxygen supply, running through the site to an intensive care unit, was protected throughout demolition.



Also, a temporary access road would have to be made available for emergency vehicles during the works. Consideration would have to be given to the potential environmental effects to the public, patients, staff and surrounding areas both on and off campus.

SOLUTION: The programme was produced in accordance with the client's requirements for the project. Method statements and health and safety plans were sent to the CDM coordinator for their approval prior to works commencing.

In order to make sure the oxygen pipes were protected and not affected by the works, temporary scaffold protection was installed. Double layer scaffold board surrounded the pipes and ply board was applied to the top of scaffolding. Monoflex was used on the scaffolding to protect the environment, public, patients and staff from dust, noise and debris.



The site was small, requiring precision demolition work to be utilised by demolition plant operatives. Extra care was taken when operating the plant excavators and plant movement on site was minimised. Machines were kept at a distance from the site boundary to reduce the effects of any vibration.

Two excavators were used onsite to complete the demolition of a hospital wing which included firstly soft stripping the internal areas of the building and the structures. During this process, waste materials were segregated for recycling purposes and removed. The methodology included the removal of the building in its entirety along with the removal of ground floor slabs, excavation of foundations and removal of hard standings.



Hand separation was utilised on the retained corridor of the site and the tower next to it.

A demolition cut line was formed between the retained corridor roof and the structure which was demolished. A buttress was formed to the retained corridor wall by utilising hand demolition on the plant room, staff room and waiting and reception room walls which were connected to the retained corridor wall.

Using demolition excavators to remove the thin concrete roof carried the risk of pulling live services, so hand demolition was utilised. This was broken out and allowed to fall into a safe drop zone within the tower - the walls were then removed.

RESULT: Arisings were crushed on site, to be recycled for future use. The project was handed back to the client on time and within budget.



To find out more on how Lawson Group can help with your next demolition or asbestos removal project, call 01793 782000, email enquiries@lawsongroup.co.uk or visit www.lawsongroup.co.uk